

were part of the official inauguration ceremony of then California Lt. Governor Cruz Bustamante where they performed in full regalia at the State's Capitol. Chief Atwell has met many political leaders, including having had the honor to talk with Vice President Al Gore and President Bill Clinton at the White House. Certainly known for his candor and forthrightness, though always in a quiet manner, Chief Atwell had the occasion to meet Governor Schwarzenegger where he shared some very pointed comments, causing a national news story; a moment he remains proud of, on behalf of his tribe. Tribes across the country have come to count on Chief Atwell for his political savvy, keen knowledge and intense wisdom.

Wed to his sweetheart, Jeanette, Clarence and Jeanette's blended family includes sons, Rufus, Aub and Curtis and daughters Cheryl and Kimberly.

Chief Clarence Atwell, Jr., has endured much in his lifetime, and it is at this crossroads that I ask my colleagues to join me in acknowledging the fine deeds of Chief Clarence Atwell, Jr. and wish him and his family well as he embarks upon his retirement.

HONORING EARLVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HON. BRUCE L. BRALEY

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 25, 2009

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding results achieved by Earlville Elementary School in Earlville, Iowa by being named a 2009 No Child Left Behind-Blue Ribbon School.

The program honors elementary, middle and high schools that are superior academically or that demonstrate dramatic gains in student achievement to high levels. Students at Earlville Elementary School ranked in the top 10 percent on state tests.

Earlville Elementary School is one of six Iowa Schools receiving the honor this year. This is a true credit to the staff and teachers who continually challenge students to want more and be better.

Madam Speaker, I am extremely proud of the accomplishments of Earlville Elementary School and its Principal, JoAnn Swinton. Earning this award shows strength and persistence and I am proud to serve these fine students in Congress.

RECOGNIZING THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH BIRTHDAY OF ROWENA ELLISON

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 25, 2009

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the one hundred fifth birthday of Rowena Ellison on September 25, 2009.

Rowena Ellison was born in Minnieville, Virginia at the Windsor Farm on September 25, 1904. Rowena was the fourth of eight children born to Luther Windsor and Minnie Alexander.

She married Roy Ellison from Texas and moved to Alexandria, Virginia in 1936. Together they raised five children, each of whom graduated from George Washington High School. Rowena Windsor has 13 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren. Rowena was widowed in 1969. She continues to live in Alexandria with the help of her children.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF SALINAS PUBLIC LIBRARY, SUNDAY, SEP- TEMBER 27, 2009

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 25, 2009

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Salinas Public Libraries in Salinas, California. In 1907, the Salinas Civic Club received \$10,000 from Andrew Carnegie to create a public library. Over the next 2 years they raised another \$4,000, purchased a site and collected books from the Odd Fellows, the Women's Christian Temperance Union, and Daughters of the American West libraries. On September 5, 1909, the doors opened for the first time to the Carnegie Public Library.

A city-wide financial crisis in 2005 threatened closure of the library. This very real danger was nationally publicized and was featured in the movie *The Hollywood Librarian*. The residents of Salinas passed a measure to fund all library operations for 10 years. Today the Library Commission and Friends of the Salinas Public Library raise thousands of dollars for children's programs, and partner with other community organizations and foundations to ensure that the libraries remain open, giving needed services to the community.

All through this year the library celebrated the rich history of the people of Salinas, gathering and displaying over 5,000 historic photographs, paintings of old Salinas adobes, oral histories of prominent residents, historical papers, and other documents. The anniversary was the catalyst for public programs and exhibits of the memories of the people and places of Salinas. The Centennial voices of children, youth and adults became part of the new collection of voices in the Library.

Madam Speaker, the three branches of the Salinas Library—John Steinbeck, Cesar Chavez and El Gabilan—encourage reading, and provide materials and services to help members of the community meet their personal, informational, educational, and cultural needs. This is the mission statement of the library, and the 42 dedicated employees more than live up to this goal. I know I speak for the whole House in saluting the community of Salinas on this joyous occasion.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TIM MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 25, 2009

Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 733 had I been present, I would have voted "no."

UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION EXTENSION ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 22, 2009

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 3548, the Unemployment Compensation Extension Act.

This critical legislation would extend unemployment benefits by up to 13 weeks in states with high unemployment, such as my home state of California, where the unemployment rate has reached a record 12.2 percent.

In California alone, this bill will provide additional benefits for over 150,000 jobless workers who would otherwise exhaust their unemployment benefits before the end of this year.

These new benefits will help the millions of Californians who have lost their jobs through no fault of their own feed their families, heat their homes and pay their mortgages.

Extending these benefits is also one of the most cost-effective and fast-acting ways to stimulate the economy because the money is spent quickly. According to Moody's Economy.com, every \$1 spent on unemployment benefits generates \$1.63 in new economic demand.

There is no question that this legislation is needed. Yes, our economy is beginning to recover. But millions are still out of work and struggling to stay afloat.

I support this bill because it will provide real money for real workers who need it in California and across the nation.

I urge my colleagues to join me in voting yes on H.R. 3548.

CONGRATULATING SAINT MARK MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH AS THEY CELEBRATE THEIR 130- YEAR ANNIVERSARY

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 25, 2009

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Saint Mark Missionary Baptist Church on their 130-year anniversary. The church, located in McKinney, Texas, will be hosting anniversary services on October 9, 2009.

Saint Mark Missionary Baptist Church was founded in 1879 by Reverend Jones and Reverend Dick White, who conducted prayer services in the homes of their members, many of whom were freed American slaves.

Through a commitment to ministry and mission work, the church serves to enrich the community within its own congregation as well as the surrounding Dallas-Forth Worth areas. The church has undergone numerous expansions, helping them grow to provide more resources for their community. Recently they acquired over 2 acres in north Texas to accommodate a growing membership.

Madam Speaker, today it is my honor to recognize the Saint Mark Missionary Baptist Church. They have demonstrated a level of commitment to community that is well appreciated, and serves as an example for us all.

MEDICARE PREMIUM FAIRNESS
ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 2009

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 3631—Medicare Premium Fairness Act. I commend Congresswoman TITUS for her efforts on this issue and also would like to recognize Chairmen RANGEL, WAXMAN, STARK, DINGELL and PALLONE for their tireless work.

Today Congress acted to ensure that some of our nation's most vulnerable citizens do not face a dramatic increase in their Medicare Part B premiums. During these difficult economic times we must make the right choices to protect our senior citizens and individuals with disabilities. Without this measure that we are acting on today, many of my constituents in the First Congressional district and individuals and families across the country would be faced with an increase in the cost of their health care that they simply can't afford.

I am pleased that there is bipartisan consensus on this legislation and hope to build upon this effort to protect and strengthen Medicare as we move forward with health care reform. Once again I thank my colleagues for their hard work on this issue and urge the bill's passage.

IN HONOR OF LORRAINE MADDEN,
INCOMING PRESIDENT OF THE
LADIES AUXILIARY OF THE
DELAWARE VOLUNTEER FIRE-
MEN'S ASSOCIATION

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 25, 2009

Mr. CASTLE. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to recognize

Lorraine Madden, the incoming President of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Delaware Volunteer Firemen's Association (LADVFA).

President Madden has been a life-long member of the Bowers Fire Company Auxiliary. Like many other members of the Auxiliary and Fire Departments, President Madden's father was the Fire Chief, and her mother was President of the Auxiliary. It has been said that being part of these organizations is like being part of a family—in Lorraine Madden's case, this rings particularly true.

Prior to being elected to this new post, President Madden served as President of the Auxiliary at Bowers and was also the President of the Auxiliary to the Kent County Volunteer Firemen's Association. Her record of service and leadership is commendable, and I believe her worthy of the honor of holding the presidential office.

The LADVFA serves such an important function in our community, and to be as effective as possible, they must have dedicated and organized leaders. I have every confidence that President Madden will provide the LADVFA the leadership it requires and is known for. I wish her the very best in her new role.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 25, 2009

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Speaker, on rollcall Nos. 727, 729, & 734, I was absent from the House.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on all.

HONORING RONALD BOEHM ON HIS
INSTALLATION AS COMMANDER
OF AMERICAN LEGION WILLIAM
MCKINLEY POST 231

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 25, 2009

Mr. LIPINSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Commander Ronald Boehm on the occasion of his installation as Commander of American Legion William McKinley Post 231.

Ronald Boehm has served as Commander of Post 231 eight times and his exemplary service is a model of leadership and devotion. In the summer of 2007, Commander Boehm aided in the construction of a beautiful and moving monument to all war veterans, especially those from Post 231 who gave the ultimate sacrifice for our nation. This monument sits outside the McKinley Post and is visible to all who pass by on 35th Street.

In 2001, as Commander, Ronald Boehm led a fundraising effort for the widows and orphans of policemen and firefighters. The fundraiser was a great success and amassed over \$10,000 for the cause.

Even outside of his work with the American Legion, Ronald Boehm has dedicated his life to the service of others, and recently retired after 40 years as a Chicago firefighter. His outstanding civic service was recognized this year by the McKinley Park Civic Association, which named Ronald Boehm "Man of the Year."

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the years of exceptional service and dedication of Commander Ronald Boehm. We acknowledge his service to our nation and to his community, and we express our gratitude.